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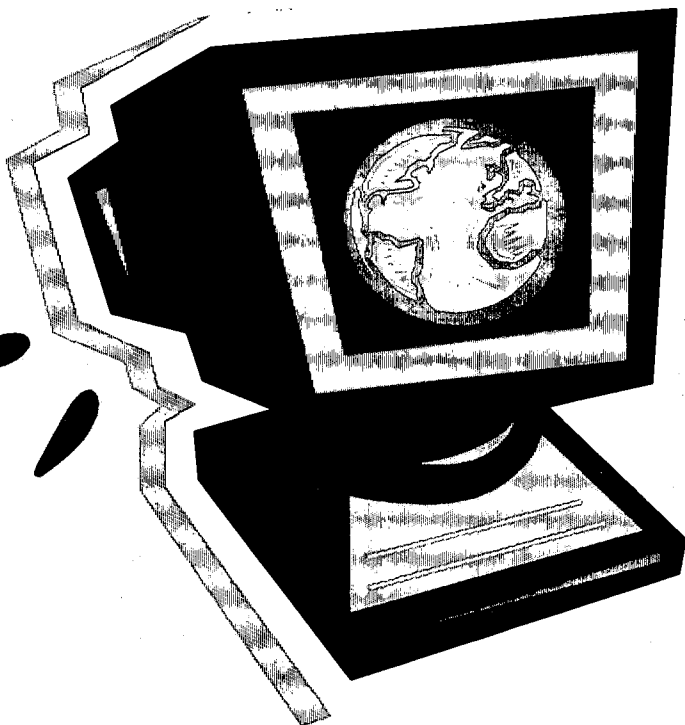
ED 439 730

IR 057 824

TITLE Alabama Public Library Service: 1998 Annual Report.
INSTITUTION Alabama Public Library Service, Montgomery.
PUB DATE 1999-00-00
NOTE 11p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Grants; Internet; Library Automation; Library Equipment;
Library Funding; Library Planning; *Library Services;
Library Statistics; Library Technical Processes; *Public
Libraries; State Aid; State Programs; Statistical Data
IDENTIFIERS *Alabama Public Library Service

ABSTRACT

The Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) is responsible for receiving and administering federal and state funds for the more than 200 public libraries in Alabama. This document represents the annual report for the Alabama Public Library Service for fiscal year 1998. Information is reported under the following categories: Evaluation and Research; Information Services; Networking, Development and Planning; Technical Services; Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped; Automation Services; and Finances. State aid totals for 1998 are also presented for Alabama public libraries, as are Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) totals. A note from the Executive Board Chair, Virginia Doyle, reports the announcement by the Gates Library Foundation (GLF) of the award of its first state partnership to the APLS which would be GLF's pilot program for future statewide funding. By the year's end, all but 5 of the state's approximately 215 public libraries either had Internet access or were waiting for installation. The Executive Board members for Districts One through Seven and Division Directors are listed at the beginning of the report. (AEF)



Alabama Public Library Service

1998 Annual Report

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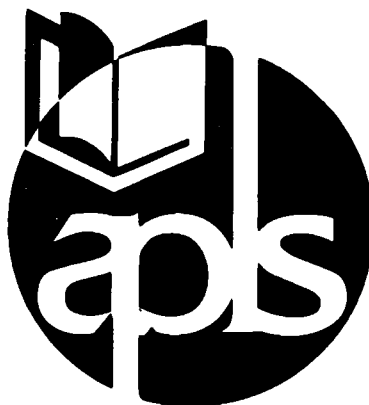
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1998 Annual Report

Alabama Public Library Service

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ALABAMA PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

The Alabama Public Library Service serves the information needs of Alabama public libraries. The agency was created in 1939 when the State Legislature created the Public Library Service as a separate division of the Department of Archives and History. Twenty years later, the Legislature created APLS as a separate state agency.

In 1978, the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from Talladega moved to APLS as a new division.

As a state agency, APLS is charged with improving library services throughout the state to ensure that all citizens have access to quality library and information services. The agency is responsible for receiving and administering federal and state funds for the more than 200 public libraries in Alabama.

Alabama Public Library Service

Executive Board

District One	Ronald A. Snider	Mobile
District Two	Ginger Barganier	Montgomery
District Three	Bragg Comer II	Sylacauga
District Four	Walter Weatherly	Fort Payne
District Five	Sandra Rhodes	Huntsville
District Six	Virginia Doyle	Birmingham
District Seven	Calvin Wright	Toxey

Lamar Veatch, Director

Division Directors

Evaluation and Research	Fred Neighbors
Networking, Development and Planning	Alice Stephens
Automated Services	Mary Payne
Technical Services	Janet Hamilton
Finance	Jim Dismukes
Information Services	Judy Shepard
Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped	Fara Zaleski

This publication is made possible in part by funds from the Library Services and Technology Act.

From The Executive Board Chairman



On behalf of the APLS Executive Board, I am pleased to present this annual report for the Alabama Public Library Service for FY 1998.

In October 1997, the Gates Library Foundation (GLF) announced that it was awarding its first state partnership to the Alabama Public Library Service and that it would be the GLF's pilot program for future statewide funding. By the end of the project, GLF had provided more than \$2.7 million in grants to set up six computer training labs and provided more than 1,000 Internet public access workstations in more than 250 public library locations throughout the state.

By the year's end, all but five of the state's approximately 215 public libraries either had Internet access or were waiting for installation. When the planned installations are complete, citizens will be able to go to a library in any county in the state and log on to the Internet.

We are proud of the accomplishments of the partnership between APLS, the Gates Library Foundation and Alabama's libraries. APLS has taken a leadership role in the educational future of this state. The library community is depending on us. We are ready to continue our work.

Virginia Doyle
APLS Board Chair, 1997-1998

Evaluation and Research

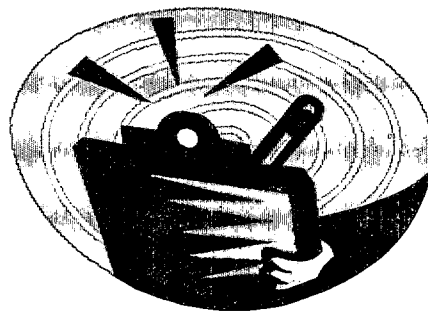
Evaluation and Research coordinated the loading and storage of all materials that were still dry after flood waters covered the first three shelves of the Elba Public Library.

Books that had been boxed by volunteers and library staff were loaded into a trailer where they were stored until the library was dried out and disinfected.

The 1997/98 fiscal year marked the first time there was 100 percent participation by Alabama public libraries in the annual collection of statistics.

The Evaluation and Research Division completed the first of a projected every two- or-three-year-survey of public library employees' salaries in Alabama. The survey was conducted in cooperation with the Alabama Library Association and its Public Library Division.

The department prepared a five-year comparison of statistics, which was reported at the annual Public Library Division's fall workshops and included in a presentation at the Division Awards Breakfast during the annual Alabama Library Association meeting in Point Clear.



Information Services

This was a year of automation for the Information Services Division. The first public access Internet terminals were installed in the Reference Department. Internet access was installed on all staff computers. The staff began to receive reference requests through e-mail from the Internet. The SIRSI Request Module

was set up and staff began to accept requests from it. Plans were made to mount the video catalog on the web.

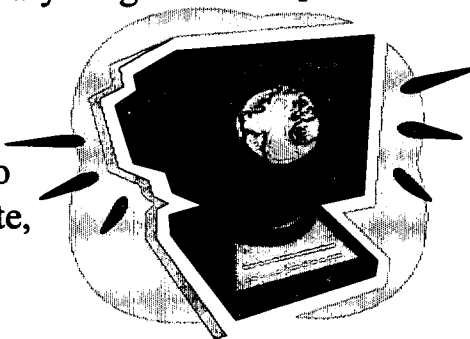
Almost 13,000 requests were handled this year and 14,440 books were circulated. SOLINET was used to fill 3,423 requests for books and photocopies for public libraries and state employees. APLS loaned 3,602 items through SOLINET. The staff assisted 1,448 walk-in patrons in Reference and 270 patrons in the Video Department. The Video Department circulated 4,967 videos viewed by 206,834 people.

Networking, Development and Planning

This division worked with public libraries as they submitted their Gates applications, planned their programs and ordered equipment, and coordinated supplementary training for local librarians.

In addition, staff worked with public libraries as they applied for e-rate discounts on telecommunication and Internet provider costs in order to sustain their Internet access.

The 1998 Summer Library Program "Surf's Up! Read" was greeted enthusiastically. APLS distributed summer library program materials to 195 libraries across the state,



including more than 2,106 posters, 123,350 bookmarks, 76,545 reading logs, 53,620 certificates, 300,000 stickers and 377 manuals.

More than 57,500 Alabama youth read some 816,000 books during the summer. Libraries provided 4,173 program events attended by 162,416 young people.

The division coordinated 41 workshops with SOLINET, workshop co-sponsored with the Education Committee

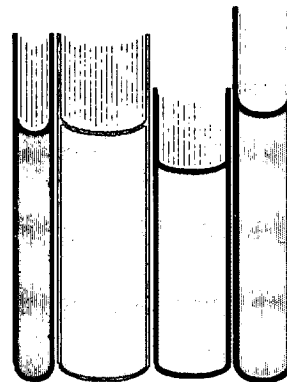
of the Alabama Library Association on Library Facilities, and nine training sessions developed and conducted by APLS staff.

Technical Services

During the year, the division cataloged 7,526 new titles and added 852 volumes to already cataloged titles. The division ordered 10,435 new titles and received 11,802 volumes, including 385 gift books.

The division spent \$846,247 on library materials, including \$688,000 for books, \$48,935 for serials in hard copy, \$53,383 for microforms, \$55,030 for CD-ROM databases and \$800 for Internet access.

The 1998 ALICAT catalog, produced in six compact discs, consisted of 3,644,851 titles entries in 8,611,073 locations. It also contained 89,413 AULS holdings. ALICAT became available on the Internet in January 1998.

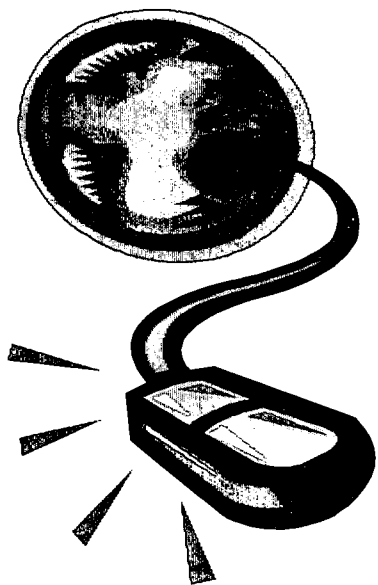


Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

The division purchased Keystone's KLAS system, a much needed circulation system which was Y2K and National Library Service compatible. The first half of the fiscal year was spent preparing for the conversion and the latter half was spent learning to use the new system.

BPH circulated 148,399 special format volumes to its 4,762 active patrons. Average overall circulation was 12,366 volumes per month. There were 437 visits by patrons or their families who chose to pick up books or exchange machines in person rather than by mail. An additional 2,145 books were loaned through interlibrary loan to the subregional libraries or their patrons.

Forty-one volunteers donated 2,220 hours at the Regional Library. Volunteers include BellSouth Pioneers, East Montgomery Mormon missionaries and Junior League members. During the year, 522 people from 21 groups toured the library and learned of the services the Regional Library offers.



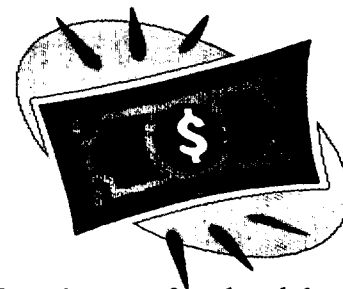
Automation Services

There's a new look in the APLS Automated Services Division.

The physical location was remodeled to allow for growth from the past two years. Space was redesigned to allow for the maximum amount of counter-space for technical personnel to work on PCs and servers.

Approximately one-third of the PCs in the agency were upgraded in an attempt to make the agency Y2K compatible. By the end of the fiscal year, all servers and a majority of the desktop PCs were Y2K compatible.

Finances



In 1998, the APLS Executive Board approved grants of Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds to public libraries, library systems and state agencies.

For FY 1998, the board approved \$1,026,183 in LSTA grants. Turn the page for a breakdown of LSTA totals.

A total of \$5,049,347 or \$1.18 per capita was awarded in State Aid for FY 98. Below is a breakdown of state aid totals.

In FY 1998, APLS received \$7,756,724 from the state and \$1,800,569 from the federal government.

During FY 1998, APLS made the following distributions: State Aid to Libraries -- \$5,049,347; Agency Operations -- \$2,707,377; Federal - Grants -- \$1,026,183; and Federal - Agency Operations -- \$774,386.

State Aid Totals for 1998

Akron Public Library	\$564	Jefferson Co Library Cooperative	\$790887
Anniston-Calhoun County Public Lib.	\$123668	Leighton Public Library	\$6162
Attalla-Etowah Co. Public Library	\$8134	Macon County-Tuskegee Pub. Library	\$27936
Autauga-Prattville Public Library	\$48094	Marengo Library System	\$27761
B. B. Comer Memorial Library	\$14900	Marshall County Cooperative Library	\$94184
Baldwin County Library Cooperative	\$134436	Mary Berry Brown Memorial Library	\$2185
Barbour County Library Cooperative	\$31368	Mobile Public Library	\$407953
Brent-Centre ville Public Library	\$19630	Monroe County Public Library	\$28287
Carl Elliott Regional Library	\$110563	Montgomery City-County Pub. Library	\$256438
Cheaha Regional Library	\$145627	Mose Hudson Tapia Public Library	\$2921
Cherokee Public Library	\$6711	Moundville Public Library	\$1581
Chilton-Clanton Public Library	\$41852	Muscle Shoals Public Library	\$17429
Choctaw County Public Library	\$18618	Newton Public Library	\$2594
Citronelle Memorial Library	\$4645	Northwest Regional Library	\$89576
Clarke County Library Dev. Board	\$33154	Oneonta Public Library	\$51412
Cross Trails Regional Library	\$114262	Ozark-Dale Co. Public Library Inc.	\$43425
Cullman County Public Library System	\$86798	Perry County Library Development	\$15068
Daleville Public Library	\$8707	Phenix City-Russell Co Pub. Library	\$61437
DeKalb County Public Library	\$67736	Pickens County Cooperative Library	\$24720
Dot Laney Memorial Library	\$857	Pike County Library Cooperative	\$33725
Elba Public Library	\$6961	Prichard Public Library	\$38966
Enterprise Public Library	\$17970	Rainbow City Public Library	\$10062
Escambia Co. Coop. Library System	\$42204	Robertsdale Public Library	\$3704
Evergreen-Concuh Co. Pub. Library	\$16720	Rufus Floyd Public Library	\$5232
Fayette County Memorial Library	\$21181	Satsuma Public Library	\$7031
Florence-Lauderdale Public Library	\$99044	Scottsboro Public Library	\$59749
Foley Public Library	\$7622	Selma-Dallas County Public Library	\$56116
Gadsden-Etowah Co. Public Library	\$96319	Sheffield Public Library	\$17108
Greenville-Butler Co. Pub. Library	\$25509	St. Clair County Library	\$69399
H. Grady Bradshaw-Chambers Co. Lib.	\$43540	Sumter County Library System	\$19163
Hale County-Greensboro Library	\$3641	Talladega Public Library	\$21618
Harrison Regional Library System	\$148373	Tuscaloosa Public Library	\$188102
Hayneville/Lowndes Co. Pub. Library	\$14210	Union Springs Public Library	\$13256
Helen Keller Public Library	\$14782	Washington County Public Library	\$20546
Henry County Library Authority	\$18046	West Blocton Public Library	\$1865
Horseshoe Bend Regional Library	\$241460	Westside Public Library	\$885
Houston-Love Memorial Library	\$99544	Wheeler Basin Regional Library	\$236508
Huntsville-Madison Co. Pub. Library	\$320519	White Hall Public Library	\$969
Ina Pullen Smallwood Memorial Lib.	\$7622	Wilcox County Library	\$16013
James C. Poole Jr. Memorial Library	\$11786		

LSTA Totals for 1998

Adamsville Public Library	\$1,000	Courtland Public Library	\$1,000
AIDB Resource Center	\$14,381	Crossville Public Library	\$1,000
Akron Public Library	\$916	Cullman County Pub Library System	\$27,472
Alabama Dept. of Youth Services	\$64,462	Dadeville Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Dept. of Youth Services	\$12,000	Dora Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Dept. of Youth Service	\$64,462	Double Springs Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Dept. of Youth Services	\$12,000	Earle A. Rainwater Memorial Library	\$1,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$20,000	Elba Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$20,000	Emma Knox Kenan Public Library	\$5,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$20,000	Emma Knox Kenan Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$25,000	Enterprise Public Library	\$31,510
Alabama Public Library Service	\$22,000	Eva Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$30,000	Evergreen-Conecuh Co. Pub. Library	\$1,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$5,000	Falkville Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$40,000	Flomaton Public Library	\$3,915
Alabama Public Library Service	\$342,005	Flomaton Public Library	\$10,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$5,000	Flomaton Public Library	\$1,000
Alabama Public Library Service	\$165,000	Floral Public Library	\$1,000
Aliceville Public Library	\$1,000	Gadsden-Etowah Co. Public Library	\$11,866
Andalusia Public Library	\$1,192	Geraldine Public Library	\$1,000
Andalusia Public Library	\$1,000	Geraldine Public Library	\$2,000
Anniston-Calhoun County Public Lib.	\$3,600	Geraldine Public Library	\$5,000
Ashland City Public Library	\$1,000	Geraldine Public Library	\$3,000
Ashville Public Library	\$1,000	Goodwater Public Library	\$1,000
Athens-Limestone Public Library	\$7,217	Gordo Public Library	\$1,000
Atmore Public Library	\$4,009	Grant Public Library	\$1,000
Atmore Public Library	\$927	Graysville Public Library	\$970
Attalla-Etowah Co. Public Library	\$1,000	Greenville-Butler Co. Pub. Library	\$16,648
B. B. Comer Memorial Library	\$2,931	Grove Hill Public Library	\$1,000
B. B. Comer Memorial Library	\$4,128	Guntersville Public Library	\$8,354
Blountsville Public Library	\$1,000	Hale County-Greensboro Library	\$3,636
Boaz Public Library	\$3,000	Hale County-Greensboro Library	\$1,000
Brantley Public Library	\$903	Haleyville Public Library	\$1,000
Bridgeport Public Library	\$1,000	Harrison Regional Library System	\$10,000
Calera Public Library	\$1,000	Harrison Regional Library System	\$18,000
Carbon Hill City Library	\$1,000	Harrison Regional Library System	\$15,000
Carrollton Public Library	\$1,000	Harrison Regional Library System	\$1,000
Cheaha Regional Library	\$960	Hayneville/Lowndes Co. Pub. Library	\$1,000
Cherokee Public Library	\$1,000	Helena Public Library	\$1,000
Chilton-Clanton Public Library	\$928	Horseshoe Bend Regional Library	\$7,495
Clyde Nix Public Library	\$1,000	Hueytown Public Library	\$1,000
Collinsville Public Library	\$1,000	Huntsville-Madison Co. Pub. Library	\$66,170
Columbiana Public Library	\$1,000	Huntsville-Madison Co. Pub. Library	\$26,402
Cordova Public Library	\$1,000	Jacksonville Public Library	\$21,844

LSTA Totals for 1998

James C. Poole Jr. Memorial Library	\$1,000	Ruby Pickens Tartt Public Library	\$19,540
Kennedy Public Library	\$1,000	Ruby Pickens Tartt Public Library	\$1,000
Killen Public Library	\$6,541	Russellville Public Library	\$1,000
Killen Public Library	\$1,000	Samson Public Library	\$899
Lallouise F. McGraw Library	\$1,000	Satsuma Public Library	\$1,000
Leighton Public Library	\$1,000	Slocomb Public Library	\$1,000
Lewis Cooper Jr. Memorial Library	\$5,310	Springville Public Library	\$1,000
Lewis Cooper Jr. Memorial Library	\$5,527	St. Clair County Library	\$14,793
Lexington Public Library	\$5,216	Stevenson Public Library	\$1,000
Lexington Public Library	\$1,000	Sulligent Public Library	\$1,000
Library Management Network, Inc.	\$75,515	Sumiton Public Library	\$1,000
Lincoln Public Library	\$1,000	Talladega Public Library	\$19,250
Lineville Public Library	\$1,000	Thomas B. Norton Public Library	\$1,000
Loxley Public Library	\$6,584	Thomasville Public Library	\$1,000
Loxley Public Library	\$878	Town and County Public Library	\$9,212
Luverne Public Library	\$1,000	Town and County Public Library	\$1,000
Macon County-Tuskegee Pub. Lib.	\$12,175	Troy Public Library	\$13,005
Marengo County Public Library	\$1,000	Union Springs Public Library	\$1,000
Marion-Perry County Library	\$1,000	Uniontown Public Library	\$1,000
Marshall County Cooperative Library	\$1,000	Warrior Public Library	\$1,000
Mary Wallace Cobb Memorial Library	\$1,000	Washington County Public Library	\$40,000
MCHS Community Library	\$1,000	Weatherford Public Library	\$1,000
Midfield Public Library	\$1,000	West Blocton Public Library	\$1,000
Millbrook Public Library	\$5,802	West Blocton Public Library	\$2,509
Millport Public Library	\$1,000	West Blocton Public Library	\$5,500
Moody Public Library	\$1,000	Westside Public Library	\$1,000
Moundville Public Library	\$1,000	Wetumpka Public Library	\$741
North Shelby County Library	\$15,289	Wheeler Basin Regional Library	\$28,850
Northwest Regional Library	\$1,000	Wilcox County Library	\$1,000
Odenville Public Library	\$1,000	Wilsonville Public Library	\$1,000
Oneonta Public Library	\$1,000	Winfield Public Library	\$1,000
Orange Beach Public Library	\$1,000	Woodville Public Library	\$1,000
Oscar Johnson Memorial Library	\$878		
Parnell Memorial Library	\$1,000		
Pell City Public Library	\$1,000		
Pickens County Cooperative Library	\$1,000		
Piedmont Public Library	\$1,000		
Ragland Public Library	\$1,000		
Rainsville Public Library	\$9,112		
Rainsville Public Library	\$1,000		
Reform Public Library	\$1,000		
Robertsdale Public Library	\$1,000		
Rockford Public Library	\$1,000		
Rogersville Public Library	\$15,702		



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